

28 February 1979

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Staff Meeting Minutes of 28 February 1979

The Director chaired the meeting; Mr. Carlucci was testifying before the HPSCI. []

25X1

Lehman [] the Chinese have attacked the Vietnamese near Lang Son and Cao Bong. The Chinese have yet to use air attacks. In response to the Director's comments, Lehman said that the Chinese do seem to have two or three main divisions in the area and they appear to be deliberately holding back. []

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Lehman reported that an Alert Memorandum on Iran is being coordinated and should be forwarded to the Director by this afternoon, and one on Lebanon will be forwarded later. Lehman added that NFAC delivered the Trends Memorandum to Dr. Brzezinski, who liked it but said it contained too many items. []

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Having been advised by [] of possible Congressional questions as a result of a recent Newsweek article alleging that a CIA task force had looked into the possibility that former Agency employee Angleton was a "mole," Stein said that C/CI Staff [] will brief the HPSCI and the SSCI on the procedures taken in response to an employee allegation about Angleton without going into the substance of the case. The Director said that he would like to be advised of the background on this matter. Waller said it was a complicated case stemming from an allegation of a former employee, and he would forward the entire package to the Director. Hetu mentioned that, in coordination with DDO, he responded to press queries last night on this matter in a general way. (Action: IG) []

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The Director said that he was disturbed about the Newsweek article because the answers attributed to him were not to the questions as stated in the article. He asked Hetu to examine the transcript of the interview and highlight it for his review. (Action: PA) []

25X1

Stein reported that an individual who swam to the shore in Miami claims to have come from a Soviet submarine. [] investigate the matter, but the individual's story to date seems unlikely. []

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[] advised that the 1980 program hearings were taking place today. []

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Hetu noted that a DDA team has gone to the West Coast to go through an individual's papers to try to locate victims of earlier drug testing programs and this could be reflected in the press. [] (for DDA) said one DDA official would be going to the West Coast.

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The Director expressed uncertainty about what guidance had been included in the FOCUS Studies on Iran. Hitz said that this information was included in the questions and answers en route to him for this afternoon's hearing.

[] explained that the 1976 study had suggested that opposition groups be collection targets and this had not been accomplished by the 1978 study. The Director urged Hitz to pull together all relevant material for this afternoon's Congressional briefing. Hitz explained the preparations that had been made for the briefing, including choosing expert witnesses to accompany the Director. The Director said that he preferred not to depend on witnesses and wanted to be sure he had the necessary facts. [] 25X1

Hitz advised that on 1 March Stoertz would be briefing the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on the Soviet strategic force structure, and Perry from DoD would testify before the same Committee an hour later. [] 25X1

Hitz said that on 7 March the Director is scheduled to testify before the SSCI on the state of intelligence from 1400-1530 hours and on the budget overview from 1530-1700 hours. Hitz added that there would be no Senate Appropriations hearing on 2 March. [] 25X1

Hitz advised that Senator Jackson has requested a copy of the NIE on the Law of the Sea, and he planned to provide him the same. The Director noted his understanding that Agency policy was not to provide NIEs to Congress. Hitz responded that he did not think NIEs could be withheld from committee chairmen with jurisdiction over the subject at hand. The Director suggested that firm rules need to be established to govern such matters. Hitz opined that rules made in the past have not always been adhered to, putting the Agency in a bad light. Offering an instance where he strived to hold to the rules, [] noted that rather than provide the second FOCUS study to Snodgrass, he briefed him orally on it, and he seemed satisfied. The Director mentioned that he had not yet seen the 1978 FOCUS study and needed the relevant information. He noted his understanding that Snodgrass planned to compare reporting on Iran in the NID and the Washington Post and asked what his purpose was. Hitz suggested he may be trying to show that contrary to Agency statements, the NID merely reflects what already is available in the press. Hitz suggested holding a meeting to discuss pulling the necessary material together for the Director's Congressional testimony today, but the Director noted his preference for Hitz to gather the material and provide it to him. [] 25X1

SECRET

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] asked the Director for a few minutes of his time later in the day to clarify tasking related to a collection question and tabulating the cost of SALT monitoring. [REDACTED]

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Alluding to an item in today's "OLC Daily Summary" about likely questions from the SSCI on 7 March following up allegations in a 5 March Newsweek article, the Director asked that DDO advise him on those elements of the article relating to covert action. (Action: DDO) [REDACTED]

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Noting an SCC meeting was held yesterday on Yemen, the Director suggested that NFAC consider [REDACTED] outlining the current situation there. He said that he would provide NFAC a message from [REDACTED] regarding the Saudi attitude toward the Yemeni situation. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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SECRET

[REDACTED]